

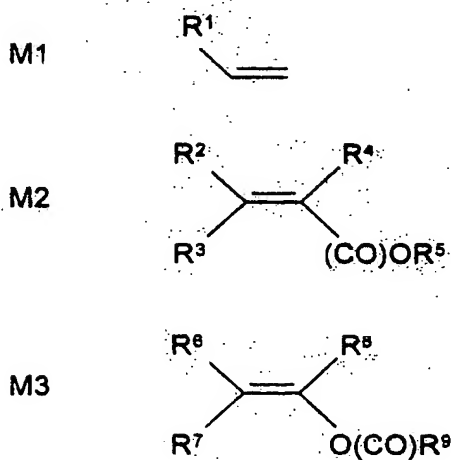
## IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): The ~~use of a~~ method of using as an additive for fuel oils and lubricants a polymer which contains, in copolymerized form, an  $\alpha$ -olefin, a vinyl ester and a  $C_1$ - $C_{20}$ -hydrocarbyl ester of an  $\alpha,\beta$ -unsaturated carboxylic acid as an additive for fuel oils and lubricants.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): The ~~use~~ method of using according to claim 1, wherein the polymer contains the vinyl ester and the ester of an  $\alpha,\beta$ -unsaturated carboxylic acid copolymerized in random distribution.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): The ~~use~~ method of using according to ~~any of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein the polymer is composed of monomers including M1, M2 and M3 and wherein M1, M2 and M3 have the following general formulae:



where

$R^1$  is H or  $C_1$ - $C_{40}$ -hydrocarbyl;

$R^2$ ,  $R^3$  and  $R^4$  are each independently H or  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl;

$R^5$  is  $C_1$ - $C_{20}$ -hydrocarbyl;

$R^6$ ,  $R^7$  and  $R^8$  are each independently H or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl; and  
 $R^9$  is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub>-hydrocarbyl.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): The ~~use~~ method of using according to claim 3, wherein the monomers M1, M2 and M3 are present in the polymer in the following molar proportions:

M1: from 0.60 to 0.98

M2: from 0.01 to 0.20

M3: from 0.01 to 0.20.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): The ~~use~~ method of using according to ~~either of claims 3 and 4~~ Claim 3, wherein monomer M1 is ethylene.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): The ~~use~~ method of using according to ~~any of claims 3 to 5~~ Claim 3, wherein  $R^2$ ,  $R^3$  and  $R^4$  are each H or two of the  $R^2$ ,  $R^3$  and  $R^4$  radicals are each H and the other radical is methyl.

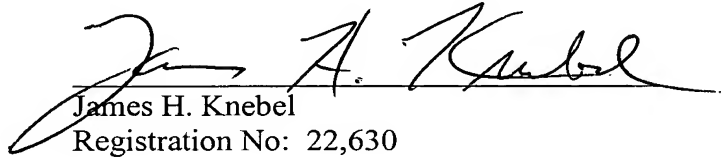
Claims 1-6 are in the case.

The claims have been amended to remove the multiple dependencies, to improve readability and to place the application in a better format for examination.

No new matter is believed to have been added. An action on the merits and allowance of the claims is earnestly requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,  
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.  
Norman F. Oblon

  
James H. Knebel  
Registration No: 22,630

Customer Number  
**22850**

Tel: (703) 413-3000  
Fax: (703) 413 -2220  
(OSMMN 03/06)